

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held

Thursday, December 16, 2021

20

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

ROLL CALL: Council attendance was as follows: Ms. Campbell, present; Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, present; Ms. Fry, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Maxfield, absent; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present was as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Chris Lohr, Assistant City Manager; Tom Garrett, Finance Director; Frank Robinson, Police Chief; Kathy Bartlett, Public Service Director, Gary Burkholder, Community Development Director; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: Mr. Denning motioned to excuse Mr. Maxfield. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: No changes were made.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Denning motioned to approve the agenda. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

OFFICER SWEAR-IN: Chief Robinson introduced the two newest members of the Riverside Police Department and read brief bios for Officer Andrew Wargo and Officer Alex Witt. Mayor Williams administered the oath of office to both officers.

PRESENTATION: Chief Robinson stated this award is not one they really want to give out because of the danger to the officers and to the public. He reviewed events that happened on July 27, 2021 at 2555 Rondowa Avenue that originally was a call on aggravated robbery, but escalated to a male holding a gun to the head of a 9-year-old girl. Sgt. James Vance was first on the scene and met by the mother of the child. The suspect exited the home and began shooting at Sgt. Vance. Sgt. Vance returned fire, but the suspect fled. Sgt. Vance put out a 99, an all call for officers to come in and set up a perimeter. While setting up a perimeter, a single shot was heard. The suspect had taken his own life in a neighboring yard. Sgt. Vance's quick thinking and training kept the citizens and officers safe from a more potentially devastating encounter. The suspect had recently got out of prison and had been up to no good in other areas. Sgt. Vance was shot at and returned fire and was being hit in the face with broken glass during the gunfire. He still had the presence of mind to keep others safe that is heroism. Chief Robinson presented Sgt. Vance with the Medal of Valor.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING/FORMER COUNCIL MEMBERS: Mayor Williams stated that Ms. Beverly Campbell began serving her community fifteen years ago from 2006-2013 and 2008-2021. She has been on council 12 years. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated Bev has a history before being on council as she served on the Avondale CDC in the 90s. She was involved in neighborhood policing and has been dedicated to her neighborhood and Rohrer Park. She has gotten financial assistance for neighbors through the county and other programs. She was largely responsible for the pavilion at Rohrer Park and pushed hard for improvements to the park. She has represented her neighborhood well. She thanked Ms. Campbell for her dedicated service. Mayor Williams stated that former Mayor Bill Flaute, former Mayor Ken Curp and County Commissioner Caroline Rice were present.

Ms. Campbell thanked council for putting up with her more or less and hopes they can get done what they need to for the future.

Mayor Williams stated that Dan Teaford joined council in 2018 and ran for reelection and won in 2019. He got to know Dan when he was the planning and zoning administrator for Riverside and Dan served on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Dan was a community volunteer with youth soccer at Rohrer Park and was passionate about the people in the city.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800 325 8094 FORM NO 10148

Held Thursday, December 16, 2021 20

With the pandemic, it wasn't as easy for everyone to continue through and is sad Dan couldn't continue, but is glad to see him tonight. He stated it was great to serve with him. He added that he has been a true servant leader for many years. Mr. Denning stated he worked with Dan many years, volunteering. He recalled a memory when they did community clean-up in Rohrer Park together. Dan has always been a part of the blood of the community. He asked him for years when he was going to run and was happy to see his name come up. He added that Dan was happy giving to his community and they were happy to get him on council and make the community a better place. He thanked him for all his years of service.

Mr. Teaford stated he really enjoyed his time on council and hated to quit, but he had to. He said life is okay, but anyone who doesn't believe in COVID-19 should talk to him as it almost killed him.

Former Mayor Bill Flaute stated that there is a thread both Dan and Bev have. They have gotten involved in the community and learned their work. That makes a good council member. He wished them both a happy retirement.

Council recessed at 6:30 pm for cake and beverages for the retirement reception.

Council reconvened at 6:50 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE: Mayor Williams administered the oath of office to newest council member Zachary Joseph. Mayor Williams administered the oath of office to reelected council member Brenda Fry. School Board President Julie Denning administered the oath of office to reelected council member Mike Denning. Nick Lommatzsch administered the oath of office to reelected council member/Deputy Mayor Sara Lommatzsch.

MINUTES: Mr. Denning motioned to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2021, council meeting. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

ACCEPTANCE OF PRIOR MONTHS FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Denning motioned to accept the financial report for November 2021. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

LIQUOR LICENSE TRASFER: Mr. Rauch reported there were no issues with the liquor license transfer from Valley Street Market Inc. to Satsang Diksha LLC, DBA Valley Street Market. Council did not request a hearing.

WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS: Mayor Williams stated any citizens who would like to speak should fill out a petition and turn it in to the clerk.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

A) Finance Department – Mr. Garrett reported that the November numbers did not include Wright Point as they are still waiting on that from Colliers. The income tax chart shows they are ahead of where they thought they would be for November. CCA made a distribution of \$126,000 a couple of days ago, and the state added \$1,200 of municipal income tax collected. They are working on year end activities. The Bond Council has provided them with the ordinance for the Wright Point note renewal. They will bring that to council in January.

B) Community Development Department – Mr. Burkholder stated he has been in touch with Kroger and construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2022. They had a successful steering committee meeting on the comprehensive plan that took place on December 8, 2021. The next meeting will be sometime in January. One of the outcomes of the first meeting was the citizen engagement component so they will share a link of the

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

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20

City's Facebook page and website to allow citizens to make comments. There is also a tool that allows them to go to a certain location and make comments on that location as well.

Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated she has received comments on that meeting and they have been positive.

C) Administration Department – Mr. Lohr stated they are in the process of wrapping up open enrollment for insurance. Their initial renewal was not favorable, but the final outcome is that they will be about even from this year to next by switching to United Healthcare. He is in the process of wrapping up the electronic records management system and that training will begin next week. The preliminary goal is to get personnel files and city contracts all digitized so they can all access them easier than paper files. They are nearing completion of the GIS project and working with MVRPC. All key staff members have access and are in the process of being training. It will be a good tool moving forward.

D) City Manager Report – Mr. Rauch stated he attended the last meeting of the Citizen's Budget Committee and it was very productive. They spent time on what the committee could work on next year like creating a budget book. They are working on a month-by-month calendar for next year and walking through the budget process. He has completed a draft RFP for a new financial software system and has already received comments from staff. He hopes to have it in front of council in early January so they can procure, install and transition to a new financial software system.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Williams stated some people have submitted petitions to speak on agenda items that have a public hearing. He asked the law director if it would be okay to hold those until the public hearing. She stated that would be appropriate.

OLD BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

I) Ordinance No. 21-O-783 – An ordinance to make permanent appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Riverside, State of Ohio, for the period beginning January 1 through December 31, 2022. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Mr. Denning motioned to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 21-O-783. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. No one wished to speak. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 7:11 pm.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

II) Ordinance No. 21-O-784 – An ordinance by the council of the City of Riverside, Ohio approving the Planning Commission's recommendation denying a change in the district boundaries as shown on the zoning map of the City of Riverside, Ohio for the properties located at 4707 Old Troy Pike, Parcel ID no. I39 00803 0012, from B-2 General Business District to I-1 Light Industrial District. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Mr. Denning motioned to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 21-O-784. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch seconded the motion. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held Thursday, December 16, 2021 20

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. Mr. Tom Dusa, 270 Regency Ridge, Dayton, OH, stated he was present two weeks ago for the first reading and wanted clarification. He received a call to come and speak today. His clients were given correct guidance, but there are some things he is reading and wants to make sure when they go to vote he knows the right things were looked at. They can either say yes, and accept the fact that zoning is denying it, or no means that they don't accept it, but that doesn't mean they are willing to allow a change. He is just confirming there is no zoning change that is able to be done tonight. Ms. Grandjean stated that changing the zoning is not before council. Mr. Dusa asked if he could go back to the planning commission. Ms. Grandjean stated in this case he can ask that the zoning be changed and go back to planning commission. Mr. Dusa stated a lot of the comments with this is for conditional use, but they are just requesting a zoning change. His clients met with zoning before they purchased the property and they were led to believe they had a chance. Now, the reasons that they use are based on conditional use. Mayor Williams stated that he could be able to apply for a rezoning at a later date, but what they have to go off what the planning commission has presented to them tonight. Mr. Dusa stated he wanted to be sure they were basing it on the right things. Mayor Williams stated they all had access to the case report since the day after the planning commission meeting. Mr. Dusa stated that goes to his point. They are using things in the report like they are in a water protected area, but that is not a reason to not change zoning because they have zoning right next to them that is in water protection that is conditional use and should not weigh into it. Mayor Williams stated it sounds like he has a case to reapply.

Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 7:21 pm.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

III) Ordinance No. 21-O-785 – An ordinance by the council of the City of Riverside, Ohio approving a change in the district boundaries as shown on the zoning map of the City of Riverside, Ohio for the property located on Glendean Avenue, Parcel ID No. I39 00110 0007, from R-3 Medium-Density Residential District to R-4 Multi-Family Residential District. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Mr. Denning motioned to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 21-O-785. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 7:22 pm. He asked citizens to please keep their comments to three minutes. Mrs. Diana Wood, 660 Glendean Avenue, stated she has been to all the meetings that have talked about the property. She stated her neighborhood is surrounded by high density with apartments around them. There are other housing opportunities like senior living, mobile home parks, houses and apartments for rent. There is a large price range in single dwellings. She is concerned about high density in regards to traffic and social issues. There are still flooding problems in the area. They do not want to have the property rezoned for R-4.

Ms. Angela Lemke, 4439 Clarewood Avenue, stated she lives on the downside of where this is going to be. She stated they do not know what they deal with in her neighborhood. They have a plot on the land that floods every time it rains. At the top of the hill, they will build a gorgeous thing, and will run down their hill and it will be Lake Byesville or whatever they want to call it. They already have issues with traffic on their side not counting the Glendean side. Also, these townhomes and apartments are going to be for sale and not rent. They do not have a guarantee of that. The cost of these are \$250,000 - \$350,000; there is not a single house near them worth that. They live in little Kentucky and take care of it. She asked what happens when the \$250,000 - \$350,000 properties don't take effect. They will get low income and small tiny apartments and too many cars. She added that her grandparents built

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held Thursday, December 16, 2021 20

Riverside before it was Riverside. All they will end up with is low income housing. They already have tiny little apartments in the area. They don't want more of that in their neighborhood. They are raising their kids and grandkids here.

Mr. Todd Pultz, 4126 Linden Avenue, Riverside, stated he is the owner of the Clarewood and Glendean property and thanked the economic development team for getting it to this point to have a real discussion about the property. He has heard the concerns of the citizens in the area and understands it is a sensitive topic. He has lived here his whole life. Any time there is progress in an area that has been established a long time it is going to be a hard topic. He stated there is nothing better for an older neighborhood than a new development that will bring in new infrastructure. He understands the argument, but it is the opposite of what people think. They believe the development will mitigate some of the concerns. They looked the best and highest use of the property and what Riverside needed. He addressed the housing issue in Riverside that a previous citizen stated. There is less than 10 at any given time on the market. This is mainly due to older communities and people staying here a long time. Riverside has a 'missing middle' category, which is townhomes and higher density areas. They looked at how they can accomplish that and benefit the community, schools, and city as a whole. These are high end townhomes, \$250,000 - \$300,000. He understands that many people in the room don't believe that; it is simply not the truth. He stated that you can't sell a \$300,000 until they build it and that is what they plan to do. They want to build a product that draws those values. He added that as a city they take for granted many things like the Air Force Base and museum. People choose to go to Fairborn, Huber, and Beavercreek because Riverside doesn't have what they are looking for. Their plan is to provide that. He stated they will create 116 townhomes for sale and appreciates their time in considering this.

Mr. Ben Newell, 630 Glendean Avenue, stated he lives across the street from the property. They were present a few weeks ago and the room was packet with residents. A small area of Riverside is affected by this and it is his and other's front or back yard. He doesn't know where zoning lives, but they aren't in his neighborhood. He stated it isn't representative of his neighborhood and what they wanted. It is someone putting together a show for them and zoning accepted it and recommended it. He asked if they knew who he was...(personal comments made against the property owner). Mayor Williams asked Mr. Newell to keep his comments to the matter at hand, a rezoning not a site plan review. Mr. Newell stated zoning went over promises from Mr. Pultz. Mr. Newell stated he wants some guarantee that he is going to put in houses that will be sold, not rented, not Section 8. Mayor Williams reiterated that it is a zoning review from an R-3 to an R-4. They are not reviewing an applicants site plan. It is a rezoning request. Mr. Newell stated it is requesting a residential to a multi-family. Mayor Williams replied it is a residential R-3 to a residential R-4. Mr. Newell stated he does not agree with that. Ms. Grandjean stated they are both residential, one is a higher density. Mr. Newell commented that they have that at the end of their neighborhood and it is nothing but problems at the end of Glendean Avenue.

Ms. Jennifer Bullock, 756 Glendean Avenue, stated she is against this proposed project and rezoning. It is townhomes and apartments, and it is not what their neighborhood needs. If anyone took the time to drive down the street they would see the traffic issues. They have spoken to Yorktown Apartments who have told their tenants not to park on the street and they still do. She stated people race down the street due to the length. They do not need any more traffic. The roads leading into the neighborhood are trash. There is nothing but potholes in the area. She added that no one is going to purchase a \$250,000 - \$300,000 home in a neighborhood where they need to dodge potholes. She stated roads are continually getting repaved throughout Riverside but their roads are not getting repaved. They asked for speedbumps to reduce speeding, but was told with it being highly trafficked and EMS/Fire having to go through they would not add speedbumps. Her children grew up in Riverside and were denied busing because they lived behind the school. She asked who would stop the children from cutting through her yard; who would pay the bill when her dog attacks children walking in their yard. She asked who is going to take care of things that have been let down

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800.325.8094 FORM NO. 10148

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Thursday, December 16, 2021

20

in Riverside. She asked who would buy a \$250,000 - \$300,000 home across the street or in front of a neighborhood where the most expensive home would sell for \$100,000.

Mr. John Wood, 660 Glendean Avenue, stated that his front door faces the property and he enjoys watching the deer out there. He stated from his understanding Riverside has had over 400 empty units for rent this past year. There is a lot of housing available, but it is not being occupied according to the internet. Some of the issues they have with the property is that there are EPA concerns with it previously being a dump. The sewer system is barely able to handle what they have right now and the school system tapped into his line. He suggested the city tap into the bases line, but feels it is doubtful. Adding 116 units will add close to another police officer by numbers of people in the community. He stated they do not have the population that Huber Heights and Beavercreek do. He thinks housing would be good for one acre lots, but high density will create issues for their community. He added that none of them were aware that the person asking for the rezoning sits on the zoning board even though he doesn't vote, he knows the people. Mayor Williams replied that was not accurate. He is not on the planning commission. The Board of Zoning Appeals does not set the zoning map. Ms. Grandjean stated the BZA rules on matters of appeals regarding the application to the zoning ordinance not on changing the zoning ordinance. There are different boards and have different people. Mr. Wood stated he guessed more people in his neighborhood need to be on committees of the city. Mayor Williams stated they would welcome that.

Mr. Jerry Bullock, 756 Glendean Avenue, stated he grew up in the neighborhood and they all know one another. He stated he rides his bike up and down the street and people fly down with their cars almost hitting him. He asked why there is a need for more population when driving is already unsafe. Construction will inconvenience them. He understands Mr. Pultz is on the committee and the council may favor him. Mayor Williams corrected him by stating the applicant is not on the planning commission. He explained what the planning commission does. Mr. Bullock stated there are not many expensive homes in his community so why would someone buy an expensive home when nothing next to it is worth that. They deal with the apartments down the road that have people constantly in and out and can't pay for it. He asked what happens down the road when people can't pay for their place; it will be empty lots that will make the neighborhood look worse.

Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 7:44 pm.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Campbell, abstain; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

- I) **Ordinance No. 21-O-786 – An ordinance to make supplemental appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Riverside, State of Ohio, for the period beginning January 1 through December 31, 2021. (1st & 2nd readings, public hearing, adoption)**

Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch motioned to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-O-786. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Roll call went as follows: Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Williams stated that city council has been requested to approve both the first and second reading and consider final adoption. Mrs. Franklin motioned to suspend the rules requiring an ordinance be read on two separate dates. Mr. Denning seconded the motion.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held Thursday, December 16, 2021 20

Roll call went as follows: Mrs. Franklin, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Denning motioned to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 21-O-786. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. No one wished to speak on Ordinance No. 21-O-786. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 7:47 pm.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

B. RESOLUTIONS

- I) **Resolution No. 21-R-2731 – A resolution authorizing the withdrawal of the City of Riverside from three grant projects through the Montgomery County Environmental Services and one grant application through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission and rescinding prior resolutions related to such grant projects.**

Mr. Rauch stated this is a resolution to allow from withdrawal of certain infrastructure projects and informing the partners on the projects that the city will be unable to proceed with those projects.

Mr. Denning motioned to approve Resolution No. 21-R-2731. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- II) **Resolution No. 21-R-2732 – A resolution amending Resolution No. 21-R-2649 authorizing the city manager to enter into an agreement with the City of Dayton regarding the protection of Source Water Protection Areas within the City of Riverside, State of Ohio.**

Mr. Rauch stated this resolution is an update to the Source Water Protection Agreement Riverside has with the City of Dayton. Riverside has been the contractor for source water protection activities, a lot of these are community development related and things connected to economic development, planning and zoning. Since Riverside is in the source water protection area, Dayton pays the city about \$100,000 a year to perform those activities.

Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch motioned to approve Resolution No. 21-R-2732. Mr. Denning seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- III) **Resolution No. 21-R-2733 – A resolution authorizing the City of Riverside to expend an additional \$31,430 in funding its actual cost allocation for the Woodman Drive/Burkhardt Road intersection project funded through federally allocated monies through the Ohio Department of Transportation based on actual costs determined and actual bids received.**

Mr. Rauch stated this is related to improvements to signals at Woodman to Burkhardt. ODOT has received \$450,000 - \$500,000 in federal grants connected to updating those signals. Funds have been identified to cover the gap coming from Fund 702. Mrs. Franklin asked what the total cost of the project is. Mr. Rauch stated it is near \$500,000. Ms. Bartlett stated ODOT had initially estimated the project for city costs being \$29,000. The bid came in high and they are asking for an additional \$31,000. Mr. Rauch stated if they

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS: 800.325.8094 FORM NO. 1014E

Held

Thursday, December 16, 2021

20

didn't have any grant money and did it out of pocket, it would be a little over a half million. He identified funds that do not require additional appropriations so they can use that.

Mr. Denning motioned to approve Resolution No. 21-R-2733. Mrs. Franklin seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Williams stated one person wishes to speak, Mr. Klein. He asked him to give his name and address and to keep comments to three minutes. Mr. Stephen Klein, Waite, Tomb & Eberly, LLP, 124 W. Main Street, Troy, OH, stated he represents Mohammad Rihan the lessee of 602 Woodman Drive. He stated Mr. Rihan rented the property to operate a used car lot and cell phone repair. He obtained a conditional use permit. In February 2020, he received four notices of violation, which he has attempted to resolve but has been unsuccessful. Mr. Rihan obtained his services last March. He stated he has been in municipal government for over 20 years as being the law director for the City of Piqua. He tried to set up a meeting for over three weeks with Riverside staff, but didn't get anywhere. He was contacted by attorney Jim Miller, who explained because of prior issues they would have to start over and request a new conditional use. He did attempt to do that last July, but was again denied due to a failure to meet prior conditions. For the past five months, he has been in touch with Jim, but doesn't know what is going on as nothing ever happens. Five months is a long time. Mr. Rihan is paying \$3,000/month on rent, utilities, and taxes for a building he can't get any revenue from. He stated there are only three reasons why five months go by with nothing being resolved: either Mr. Rihan is dragging his feet...Mayor Williams interrupted stating that this matter is currently an open litigation matter that council is not able to comment on. Ms. Grandjean stated she will look into it for Mr. Klein and get back to him. Mr. Rauch stated the it would be best to speak with staff and the attorney and see what the next steps to proceed. Mr. Klein continued with the reasons why nothing has happened with the second issue being staff, and the third reason being Mr. Rihan being identified as an unwelcomed member in the business community of Riverside. Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Klein for his comments.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Mrs. Franklin wished everyone safe and happy holidays with their families. This year her son with his wife will be with them. Ms. Campbell stated she hopes council can move things forward and get things done, and the police department to clean up the neighborhood. It has been a long, interesting time. She hopes everyone has a happy holiday. Mayor Williams thanked Bev for her many years of service not only on council but from working in the community. He was glad to have seen Dan Teaford. He stated when he came on a few years ago, he attended a New Year's Eve mass at St. Helen's and the deacon read a prayer from Archbishop John Carroll, who gave a prayer on the inauguration of George Washington, "We pray for the governor of this state, for the members of the assembly, for all judges, magistrates, and other officers who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled, by your powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respective stations with honesty and ability". This is a challenge to them and is looking for the challenges of 2022. He wished everyone a wonderful couple of weeks off. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch thanked Bev for her service and asked her to take care of her health. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked community members who are still, have, and will be supporting residents of the city in a number of ways. She stated the fire department experience the other night was wonderful and hopes it becomes bigger. She was delighted to see the number of children and adults out on the street waiting to see Santa. She thanked city staff for doing one of the hardest jobs in the world – working with the public every day. Ms. Fry thanked all of the neighborhood groups and community organizations doing overtime this holiday season – giving donations to the families in the community and to first responders. It has been a joy to see the community come together. She stated a blood drive is coming up on December 27, 2021, in council chambers. There is a fleece blanket as a thank you gift for registering. Those interested can go to www.donortime.com and enter code 1680. Mr. Denning thanked the fire department for sending the lighted fire truck around the city; it was an awesome thing to do. It was good to see the community out and visit with Santa. They did a good job letting the public know

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

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Held Thursday, December 16, 2021 20

where they would be. It was awesome for the fire department to pull together. He thanked the Jaycees for buying the lights for the fire truck and providing the Santa Claus to make sure Santa was riding around. He thanked the entire community for outpouring of donations to help less fortunate. There was a special Christmas party for specially picked children. Some families will benefit even more from that. There was breakfast with Santa done by the Lions Club. He added the community pulls together and it is great to be a part of this and live in this community where they try to help each other. He thanked Bev for all her years of service. He added that when Bev gives her word, she does her best to keep it. Her integrity can't be questioned when it comes to that. If she believes in something, she will talk to you about it and whether you agree with her or not, she will accept your answer and move on. That is what we all should aspire to do: keep our word and do the best we can to keep it.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Campbell motioned to adjourn. Mr. Denning seconded. All were in favor; none opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.



Peter J. Williams, Mayor



Clerk of Council

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800 325 8094 FORM NO. 10148

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